

**Leadership**  
**Elders** Hayward Blanton, Jerry Casey  
**Deacons** Clint Smith Jr, Robby Stocksdale  
 Joe Sweeney  
**Pulpit Minister** David Wright  
**Associate Minister** Irvin F. Williams

**Panama Missions**  
 Evans Campbell Pablo Sanchez

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and Bible Correspondence Courses - Phone (812) 284-3125

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**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday**  
 Bible Class 10:00 AM  
 Morning Worship 11:00 AM  
 Evening Worship 6:00 PM

**Wednesday**  
 Bible Class 7:00 PM



# The Worker

3108 Hamburg Pike, Jeffersonville, IN 47130 Ph. (812) 284-3125

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## The Formula For Success

A popular motivational speaker lists three keys to success:

**Purpose** - One has to have a goal in mind and a way to reach that goal to truly achieve. Too many people wonder around aimlessly and then wonder why they never succeed. A purpose gives us something to strive for - something to achieve.

**Passion** - One must greatly desire the purpose to be attained - so much so that it drives him to do whatever is necessary to reach it. A purpose will rarely be realized unless one is truly passionate about it.

**Performance** - Purpose and passion are worthless without good, old-fashioned hard work. That's what it takes to get from point A to point B - success doesn't come to you, you must go to it.

These can be applied in Christianity, as well. Please consider the following:

Do you have a purpose to your Christianity? Do you set Christian goals to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord (2 Pet. 3:18)? Is every decision on earth made with the ultimate goal of attaining heaven in mind (Col. 3:1-2)?

Do you have passion for your Christianity? Do you have a zeal and fervor for serving the Lord (Titus 2:4)? Do you have a driving love for the Lord, and are you always joyful and excited to be a Christian (1 Pet. 1:8)?

Do you have performance in your Christianity? Do you labor daily for the Lord (Heb. 6:10)? Do you harmoniously involve yourself with the church in every way possible (Eph. 4:11-16)?

Let Paul's words in Phil. 3:12-14 inspire us to improve these in our Christian lives:

*"Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."*

- Edd Sterchi preaches for the Jackson church of Christ in Jackson, MO.

### Those Privileged to Serve December 23

AM Service		PM Service		AM & PM Services	
Song Leader	Michael Hawkins	Song Leader	Clint Smith Jr	Announcements	Harold Tincher
First Prayer	Clint Smith Jr	Bible Reading	Daniel Tincher	Lord's Supper	Hank Tincher
Second Prayer	Clint Smith Sr	Selection	27	Offering	Greg Blanton
Scripture	John Keaton	Prayer	Grover Blanton	Usher	Joe Sweeney
Sermon	David Wright	Sermon	David Wright	Count Offering	Art Patrick
Lord's Supper		Closing Prayer	Robby Stocksdale	Assist Count	Harold Tincher
Message	David Blackwell	<i>If unable to serve please call:</i>		<i>Do not be slothful in zeal,</i>	
Attendant	Art Patrick	<i>Art Patrick 502-819-9481</i>		<i>be fervent in spirit,</i>	
Attendant	Jerry Montgomery	<i>Harold Tincher 812-288-5956</i>		<i>serve the Lord. Rom 12:11</i>	
Closing Prayer	Leon Stocksdale				

Hamburg Pike Church of Christ  
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## Whose Imagination Is Wild?

David Wright

Some skeptics suggest that the resurrection of Jesus took place in the disciples' heads. Hypnosis, for instance, may explain their faith. Perhaps Jesus was a master hypnotist. Before his death he trained his followers to have hypnotic experiences triggered by certain environmental cues. In these trances they would see Jesus alive.

This theory puts too much stock in the power of hypnosis. For one thing, not everyone is susceptible to it. Hypnosis certainly had no effect on Thomas. After the resurrection all the apostles were telling him what they had seen, but Thomas stubbornly refused to believe unless he could put his finger "in the mark of the nails" (John 20:25).

Furthermore, Jesus had no opportunity to play mental games with Saul of Tarsus. The staunchest witness of the resurrection became a disciple two or three years after the cross.

The hypothesis that the resurrection witnesses were hallucinating is equally untenable. Hallucinations result from drug use or serious illness. Neither of these factors was in play. Besides, a hallucination is an individual experience. But Paul mentions an occasion when Jesus "appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time" (1 Cor. 15:6).

The resurrection of Jesus was neither hallucination nor hypnotic suggestion. Luke, the author who penned more of the NT than anyone else, explained that his work was the product of thorough investigation: "Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things which have been accomplished among us, just as they were delivered to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account" (Luke 1:1-3). This "orderly account" (which includes both Luke and Acts) affirms that Jesus "presented Himself alive, after His suffering, by many convincing proofs" (Acts 1:3, NASB). The Christian believer has "convincing proofs." It is the skeptic who has the wild imagination!

### Sermon

2 Cor. 5:16-21

### [Parable of the New Wine](#)

Peter the Rock (p.m.)

<sup>3</sup>For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 1 Cor. 15:3-8

**Prayer List:** Chandra Akers (Marla), Tina & Randy Balentine (Jean), LIZ BLANTON, RUBY BLESSITT, MARTIN BONNEY, Ruth Bumpus (Polly), JAYNE CRAVENS, Dennis Davis (Debbie), JANICE DIMMITT, MYRNA DIMMITT, PATTY DIMMITT, ALMA FAYE DORMAN, MILDRED ELLIOTT, Zachary Ferguson, Lillian Foster, Diana Fulks (Norma), Gwen Hardy (Deb ), FRANK & MARY HARRIS, DOUG & JUDY HAWKINS, Pricilla Hudkins, ALLENE HUSTON, Elise Jackson (Christine), Alice Jenkins (Ann), Charles & Marlyn Jenkins (Ann), James Jones Ministry, Arletha Kenty (Nathan), Josephine King (Polly), MERLE & JOYCE KNUCKLES, FRANCES LAWTON, SUE LINNE & Rhea, Estin Martin (Jean), POLLY MCCLINTOCK, JERRY & SONJA MONTGOMERY, Carol Mousty (Ann), Gary Peyton (Jean), Jerrie Phillips, CHRISTINE RHOTON, Cindy Roeder (Christine), Wendell & Betty Smith (Polly), FERN TINCHER, Fulton Wilson (Ann)

**Serving in the Armed Forces:** Joey Blanton, Stephen Blanton and Scott Viers

### Hamburg Pike Happenings

The next "Monday Night for the Master" meeting is January 7, 2013. Please sign the sheet in the foyer if you plan to attend.

### **Time for a Spiritual Checkup?**

Examine yourselves to prove that you are a Christian and that you are continuing in the faith (2 Cor. 13:5). Sometimes a physical checkup is made, not because one feels sick, but to be reassured of good health, or to determine if there are emerging problems one is not aware of. Why not do the same thing spiritually?

There are several areas of one's spiritual condition that need periodic examination:

- (1) One's relationship with God
- (2) One's own spiritual growth and development
- (3) One's function in the church and relationship with other Christians
- (4) One's relationship with those outside the church and one's ability to represent Christ and the church effectively.

- Gerald Cowan preaches for the Dongola church of Christ in Dongola, IL.

*"A man of words and not of deeds, Is like a garden full of weeds."*

*"Criticism is the disapproval of people, not for having faults, but for having faults different from ours."*

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